

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 715

March 24, 2013

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Creates the Roller Skate Liability Act and an equivalent act limiting the liability of operators of skateboard parks.

An operator of a roller skating rink is not liable for damage or injuries to a roller skater or spectator if the operator complies with the act. The operator must:

- Provide one individual as a skating rink monitor who must wear identifying attire, supervise and direct skaters, remove any foreign objects on the roller surface, and inspect, maintain, or request maintenance of the skating surface and surrounding areas;
- Conduct periodic inspections of equipment to ensure a safe operating condition;
- Post the duties and expectations of skaters and spectators as prescribed by the act;
- Maintain liability insurance of at least \$1,000,000 per single incident for personal-injury, death, or property damage; and
- Maintain accurate records and daily logs for the roller skating facility.

The skaters must:

- Comply with all posted signs and warnings;
- Obey all instructions or warnings from the monitor;
- Maintain reasonable control over skate speed;
- Be aware of other skaters and objects on the roller surface and take reasonable care to avoid collision with such; and
- Be aware that skill levels vary and each individual must take reasonable care to skate within his abilities.

Prohibits the operator of a skateboard park from allowing any person to ride a skateboard in the skateboard park without wearing a helmet, elbow pads, and knee pads.

Any skateboard facility owned or operated by a governmental entity that is not supervised on a regular basis must post readily visible signs indicating that safety equipment must be worn while using a skateboard. The signs shall be at least 8 ½" x 5 ½" and shall state:

IF YOU ARE RIDING A SKATEBOARD IN THIS FACILITY YOU MUST  
WEAR A HELMET, ELBOW PADS AND KNEE PADS. FAILURE TO DO SO  
IS A VIOLATION OF T.C.A. § 29-34-604 AND IS PUNISHABLE BY LAW.

Provides that any person who rides a skateboard at a skateboard facility operated in accordance with the bill assumes the risk of injury or damage. Provides that any spectator at a skateboard facility operated in accordance with the bill assumes the risk of injury or damage.

Requires persons riding skateboards in a skateboarding facility to:

- Wear a helmet, elbow pads and knee pads;
- Comply with all posted signs and warnings;
- Obey all instructions or warnings from any official at the facility;
- Maintain reasonable control over skate speed;
- Be aware of other skaters and objects on the roller surface and take reasonable care to avoid collision with such; and
- Be aware that skill levels vary and each individual must take reasonable care to skate within his abilities.

Requires any operator of a skateboarding facility to:

- Provide one individual as a skating rink monitor who must wear identifying attire, supervise and direct skaters, remove any foreign objects on the roller surface, and inspect, maintain, or request maintenance of the skating surface and surrounding areas;
- Conduct periodic inspections of equipment to ensure a safe operating condition;
- Post the duties and expectations of skaters and spectators as prescribed by the act;
- Maintain liability insurance of at least \$1,000,000 per single incident for personal-injury, death, or property damage; and
- Maintain accurate records and daily logs for the roller skating facility.

## **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**NOT SIGNIFICANT**

Assumption:

- According to the Administrative Office of the Courts, the bill will not have a significant impact on the courts' caseload. Any impact can be accommodated within existing resources.

## **CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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